President's
Report
2023
150
MASS ART
YEARS

Table of Contents

1–3
LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

4–7
AFFORDABILITY AND ACCESS
AN OPEN DOOR IS A POWERFUL THING

8–11
COMMUNITY AND DIVERSITY
AN AUTHENTIC KINETIC COMMUNITY

12–15
OUTCOME AND IMPACT
LEARNING UNLEASHED

16–19
LEARNING AND MAKING
THE JOY OF MAKING YOUR MARK

20–21
COLLEGE LEADERSHIP

COVER ART

Fred HC Liang
***Fenway Chirp*, 2019**
Gouache, acrylic, papercut and mixed media; BFK paper; 42x50"

Fred HC Liang is a Professor of Fine Arts/2D and Chair of the Printmaking program at MassArt. His work is in numerous public and private collections, including Fidelity Investments, the Gund Collection, the Addison Gallery of American Art, and the Rose Art Museum. He has exhibited at the Addison Gallery of American Art, Milwaukee Art Museum, and the Chao Art Center in Beijing, and had solo exhibitions in Berlin, Germany; Jerez, Spain; and Beijing, China.

Dear Friends,

I'm thrilled to share my excitement as we celebrate MassArt's 150th Anniversary in 2023! Consider this an open invitation to join us as we revel in our singular history, extraordinary students, world-impacting alumni, and powerhouse faculty and staff. From our Huntington Avenue campus to SoWa to all the neighborhoods visited by Sparc! the Artmobile, we're eager to share our jubilance and pride. Throughout 2023 we will tell the MassArt story from art studios to galleries, classrooms to darkrooms, broadcasting how far we've come and how far our talent, tenacity, and creative energy will take us.

We all treasure this undeniably one-of-a-kind institution, where our roots are deeply planted in a provocative and visionary idea: that every student within the Commonwealth deserves an educational foundation that includes art and design. Our visionary founders understood that art and design belong in every conversation, and that art is both a language shared by all, and the most universal channel to advance the common good.

At MassArt, we never sit still. Our doors are wide open to opportunity while our eyes search for a chance to change paradigms. We're charging ahead with limitless artistic drive, full-throttle inventiveness, and ambitious engagement while embracing 150 years of expansive creativity.

A favorite part of my role is to engage with our MassArt community. I'm continuously inspired by our students, faculty, staff, and alumni and their commitment to being bold, adding color to the world and pushing the artistic edge. Art and design always hold the promise of something new, and our community has added to the palette of our beloved Boston by creating stunning public art for our streets, engaging with our city's public-school students and life-long learners alike, and collaborating with the world's premier medical and educational institutions.

> "We help students develop into flexible, resilient, future-facing innovators....ready to join and lead a workforce that will define the 21st century."

It constantly amazes me that MassArt's forward momentum never fails us, and while we continue to step lively with energy and enthusiasm, we also have a job to do. Together, let's reimagine our future, reaffirm our mission, reflect on our history, and rally for what comes next.

President Grant welcomes to campus members of the Massachusetts Legislature Joint Committee on Tourism, Art and Cultural Development, June 2022.

Ceremonial puck drop at the Boston Pride professional women's hockey team, February 2023.

MassArt also has a deep responsibility to the Commonwealth. As a public institution we are a catalyst, powering the region's economic, civic, and cultural engines by graduating students who are design thinkers, world-class creatives and makers, inspiring educators, and transformative community members. The possibilities of where our students will go after graduation are infinite. By fostering a creative ecosystem at MassArt, we help students develop into flexible, resilient, future-facing innovators. While on campus they learn to be collaborators and critical thinkers and doers, ready to join and lead a workforce that will define the 21st century.

And we are steadfast partners to our city, our region, our state, and beyond. With community programs that reach citizens from Cape Cod to Cape Ann, from Boston to the Berkshires, we have long-term, deep and abiding commitments to outreach and public programming. The MassArt Art Museum (MAAM), the MassArt x SoWa gallery, and our other numerous galleries are free, dynamic showcases for extraordinary exhibitions where we welcome every curious visitor.

We're living in an extraordinary, fast-paced time, and it's a privilege to support our students as they step into—and help create—the future. Technology is moving at a staggering speed, and it's a gift to see them use their imaginations, their skills, grit, knowledge, and humor to pursue their dreams, become leaders in their fields, tackle challenging problems, and achieve great things.

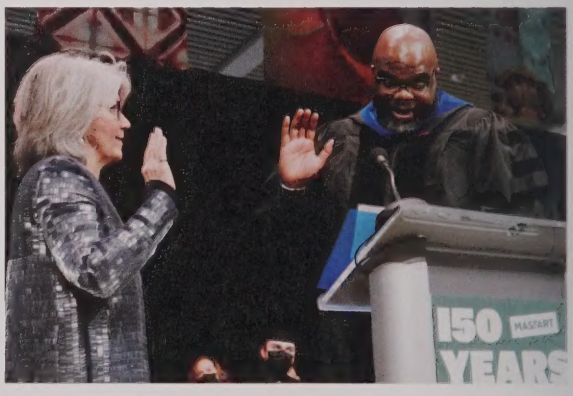
Art and design are, and will always be, intrinsic to the human experience, the understanding of our world, and the best, most direct way to look into the human heart. Art takes work, and as Maya Angelou wisely instructed us, "Pursue the things you love doing, and then do them so well that people can't take their eyes off you."

Please come visit; you won't be able to take your eyes off the work of our students. See the campus, *your* campus. Find out what's new and join us as we celebrate this 150th anniversary year and look ahead to all that we will do and accomplish together!

Sincerely,

Mary

Mary K. Grant, PhD
President

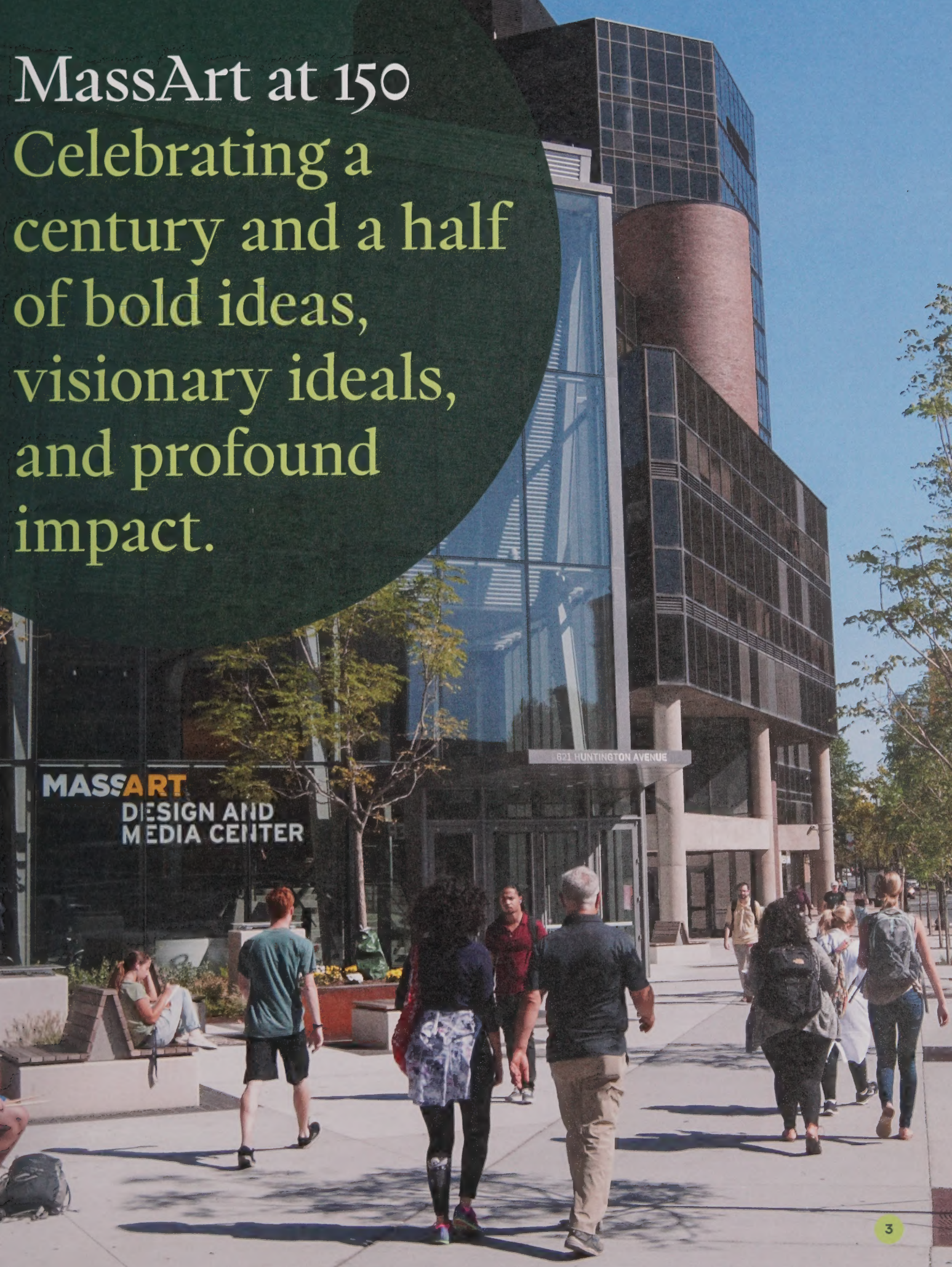


Dr. Mary Grant is sworn in as MassArt President by Secretary of Education Patrick Tutwiler, January 20, 2023.

The "Embrace Ideas" festival event, hosted by President Grant.

MassArt at 150

Celebrating a century and a half of bold ideas, visionary ideals, and profound impact.



An Open Door Is a Powerful Thing

Artward Bound

At MassArt, we believe in the power of art and design to transform the world. As a public institution, it is our responsibility to offer opportunities to everyone with talent and dreams to have a seat at the table—to even design their own table—and to create for themselves and for others.

Artward Bound is a four-year college access and success program in the arts for first generation Boston-area students of color, offered at no cost to participants. The program's mission is simple: to bring young, vibrant, local voices of color to the forefront of art and design industries, with a goal to diversify representation in the field, making it more culturally relevant and dynamic. Since 2011, Artward Bound has provided Boston high school students with access to the arts, academic support, an artistic home, and a solid path to college—all through 100%-free year-round programming.

Our students are on their way to becoming illustrators, cinematographers, art teachers, fashion designers and painters. Many are the first members of their family to pursue a college education, and Artward Bound provides the academic and artistic foundation needed for acceptance to and success at post-secondary institutions. The curriculum includes mentoring and support in social/emotional and daily life skills, so that our scholar-artists are prepared to thrive while in high school and be prepared for college.

PLEASE
PLACE STAMP
HERE

ation

PR23

MASSART QUICK FACTS

As of Fall 2022, 23% of MassArt undergrads are First Generation, 88% receive financial aid, and 30% receive Pell Grants.

Source: Vital Signs Fall 2022

100%
of **120** students who completed all four years of Artward Bound graduated high school

96%
enrolled in a two or four year college

61%
selected colleges focused on art and design

GABY MORENO '25
Painting

Gaby Moreno is a Boston-based Salvadoran-American artist in her second year at MassArt who aspires to be an art therapist at a children's hospital. Moreno is an Artward Bound alumna and like many of her peers, she is also a first-generation college student. When she enrolled at MassArt she found support through the Academic Compass Program, which connects and supports undergraduate students with mentors, faculty, and staff. Through these programs, Moreno has found a sense of belonging and support. "My favorite thing about MassArt has to be the community, because it's people from everywhere," says Moreno, "I don't feel alone. I don't feel like an outsider. Everyone is different and we all accept that. That's beautiful. You don't see that everywhere." Like most MassArt undergraduate students, Moreno also receives critical financial support. "Having this scholarship," she notes, "is an opportunity, but it's also a dream come true. If it wasn't for it, I don't think I'd be here."

CHANDRA MÉNDEZ-ORTIZ
Executive Director

Chandra Méndez-Ortiz is a practicing artist, an experienced educator, and served as the Executive Director of Artward Bound at MassArt for the past 8 years. Her program curriculum focuses on successful portfolio creation and coursework that builds upon art and design skills, studio practice, as well as reflection and critique skills in a supportive and engaging community. As a true community leader, Méndez-Ortiz is committed to expanding opportunities for students and creating supportive environments that allow all students to access successful arts educational experiences at MassArt and beyond.

Most recently, Méndez-Ortiz also served as the Co-Director of the Radical Imagination for Racial Justice Regranting Program—a partnership between MassArt, The Surdna Foundation, and the City of Boston Mayor's Office of Arts and Culture to support BIPOC artists to reimagine racial justice in partnership with their communities, to create movement toward racial justice.

President Grant with Nikole Hannah-Jones, award-winning investigative journalist (l), and Lisa Tung, MAAM Executive and Artistic Director (r).

MassArt Art Museum

As Boston's only free museum of contemporary art, the MassArt Art Museum (MAAM) offers broad community access to exhibitions and programming that are current, resonant, and relevant. All of MAAM's educational programs are open to the public, and seek to empower youth, families, and our community to experience art as an essential component of learning.

Much more than an exhibition venue, MAAM proudly serves as a teaching museum and has a passionate mission to educate, inspire, and empower future generations of artists, designers, and educators—both on campus and beyond. The museum functions as a space for making art, for experiments and taking risks, for different communities to gather and grow, and for intellectual exchange and learning. MAAM's mission is to open eyes, expand minds, and create opportunity through the lens of contemporary art.

In Fall 2022, MAAM launched a new Catalyst Fellowship Program to provide scholarship funds for MassArt Black, Indigenous and People of Color (BIPOC) undergraduate students who are considering futures in museums. Catalyst Fellows gain valuable, hands-on, professional experience, preparing them for future work in museums or related spaces within the arts and culture field. Catalyst Fellows work with museum staff to realize exhibitions and programs, participate in a mentorship program with BIPOC arts leaders, and have special opportunities for additional leadership and professional training.

An Authentic Kinetic Community

ADDERLEY ARTISTS IN RESIDENCE: GN CREW BOSTON

Since 1995, the Tyrone Maurice Adderley Lecture Series has brought artists from underrepresented groups to share diverse perspectives with the MassArt community. In 2022, the Office of Justice, Equity, and Transformation, along with Academic Affairs, launched a corresponding Adderley Artists in Residence program.

The program launched with the inaugural artists in residence GN Crew Boston, a group made up of Genaro "Go Five" Ortega ('09 BFA Art Education), Rob "Problak" Gibbs, Lee "SOEMS" Beard, and Luis "Take 1" Taforo. Collectively, the members of GN Crew have over 30 years of experience creating mural art in Boston and beyond. In the fall of 2022, GN Crew installed "Intrepid" in the Design and Media Center Atrium of MassArt, dramatically transforming the large, open space.

"Our message to you all through this new mural," said Luis "Take 1" Taforo, "is that you are absolutely capable of creating the life you can't stop thinking about. Don't hold back because you fear failure. Embrace it. Failure is not losing, it's gaining experience. So, be fearless in your pursuit of what sets your soul on fire. Be fearless in your application, allow your art to scream loudly and foster movement that shakes up the world. Once you become fearless, life becomes limitless. Be bold! Be intrepid!"

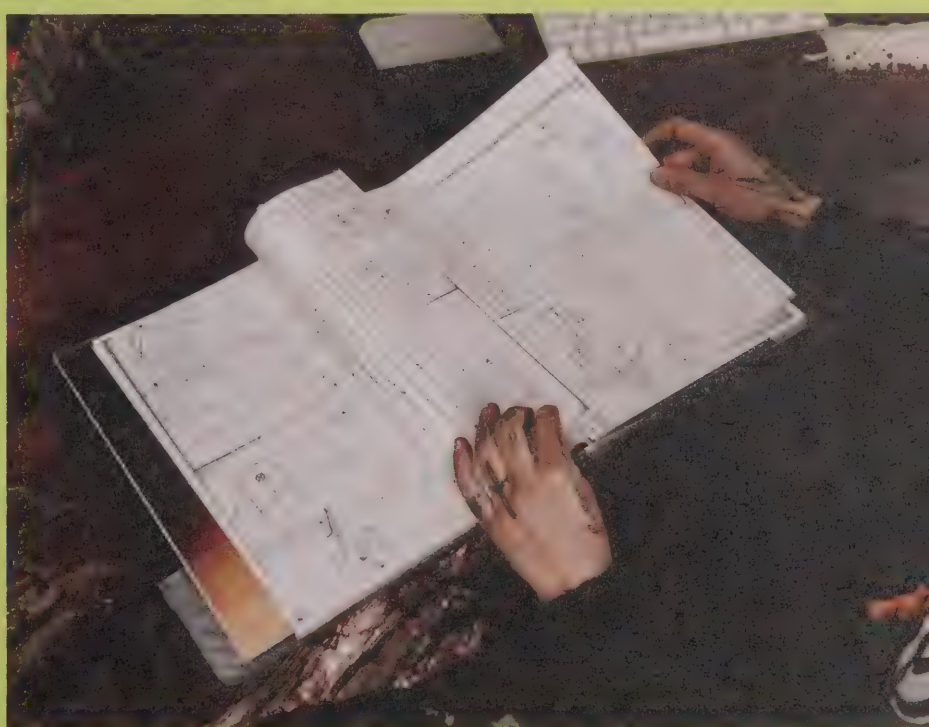
Genaro "Go Five" Ortega in his studio.

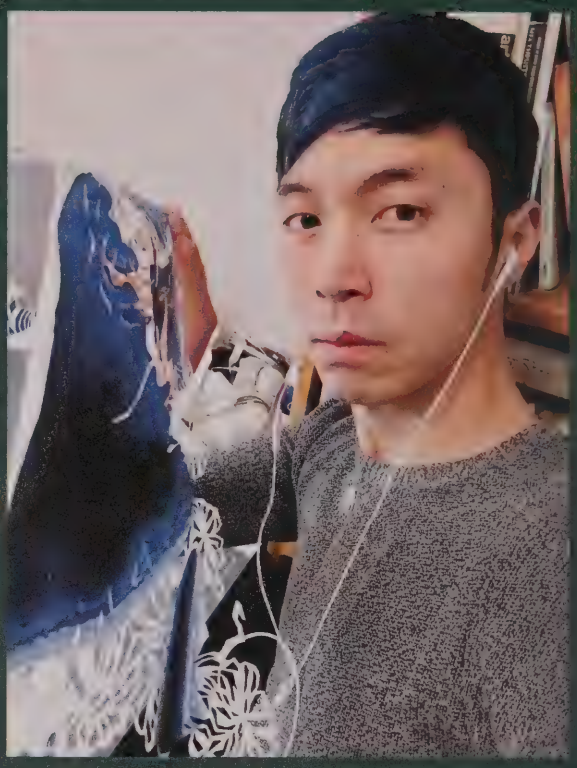
J. SHIA '13

BFA Photography

J. Shia is a motorcycle mechanic, entrepreneur, and community leader. For over a decade she has owned and operated Madhouse Motors, a motorcycle repair shop specializing in antique and custom machines in the heart of Roxbury. In her 6,000 square foot shop, Shia and her team offer routine maintenance and repair, as well as vintage restoration. Shia also builds her own custom pieces, creating functional, rideable works of sculpture.

Far more than a repair shop, Madhouse Motors quickly became a safe haven for LGBTQ patrons who felt welcomed and at ease at Shia's business. In 2022, the shop's potential as a community hub expanded with the addition of a coffee shop—Madhouse Cafe, a space designed to encourage gathering in community across social differences. Now patrons can enjoy coffee and time together—all while watching the Madhouse team repair bikes through a large glass window separating the two spaces.





YO AHN HAN MFA '14

Assistant Professor, Low Residency MFA, Painting, Studio Foundation

Yo Ahn Han is a visual artist from Korea whose mixed media pieces explore themes of suppression and desire through vibrant collaged abstractions of human forms and floral motifs in watercolor and acrylic gouache, inks, and Yupo—a sustainable synthetic paper. Throughout his work, Han draws upon his own experiences of bifurcated cultural identity, his queer identity, and his experiences living with a rare neurological condition—cerebral arteriovenous malformation.

His work has been shown internationally in the United States, South Korea, and The Netherlands. Recent exhibitions include solo shows at Chase Young gallery and Fitchburg Art Museum, as well as group shows at MassArt x SoWa gallery, the University Hall gallery at UMass Boston, and Fort Point Art Community gallery. He received his BFA from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, and his MFA from MassArt.

JOHN INTOPPA '23

BFA Industrial Design; SGA President

John Intoppa is a senior majoring in Industrial Design with a minor in Sculpture. Beginning as an animator, turned illustrator, turned graphic designer and video editor—Intoppa has delved into many realms and mediums in the art and design world. From video-editing as an intern for Shin Lim Magic to general creative support for CLONECORD, LLC—Intoppa is always looking for new possibilities and learning opportunities. Within his current focus on Industrial Design—Intoppa is exploring storytelling, props design, UX/UI design, and product design. After graduating, Intoppa hopes to use the design and leadership skills he acquired at MassArt to better the world around him.

While an undergraduate student at MassArt, Intoppa has held numerous community leadership positions, including as the Student Trustee and President of the Student Government Association. Intoppa describes the MassArt community as "a passionate group of envisioners who strive to work collaboratively to better their own work and the work of others." And the students? "The future of the art, design, and academia world," says Intoppa. "[They are] some of the most dedicated and hardworking individuals I've ever met."

ELISA HAMILTON '07

BFA Painting, MassArt Board of Trustees Chair

Elisa H. Hamilton is a socially engaged multimedia artist. Her interactive community projects seek to inspire joy, creativity, and participation. Themes of her artwork include amplifying community voices, and creating opportunities for conversation about issues of identity and belonging. In 2021, WBUR named Hamilton one of 25 Artists Of Color Transforming The Cultural Landscape. She has created projects with institutions including the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, ICA Boston, Currier Museum of Art, Boston Children's Museum, Boston Center for the Arts, MIT List Visual Arts Center, deCordova Sculpture Park and Museum, The Clay Center for Young Healthy Minds, Now+There, HUBweek, Tyler School of Art, and For Freedoms. In addition to her professional art practice, and her years of service and leadership at MassArt, including ten years on the Board of Trustees, Hamilton is a faculty member in the Media Design MA program at Emerson College.

Her current works include *Jukebox*, a community-centered percent-for-art public art commission for the City of Cambridge, MA, that transforms an original 1960 Seeburg jukebox into a machine that plays recorded stories told by Cambridge community members. Many of the *Jukebox* stories were recorded in partnership with the Cambridge Black History Project, and *Can you see me?* a participatory art installation at the ICA Boston Art Lab that invites visitors to engage in self-exploration through immersive hands-on art-making incorporating photography and photo transfers.

Learning Unleashed

In his fashion brand Solo Jubin Clothing, Ernie Jubin ('20 BFA Fashion Design), recipient of a Creative Incubator Milestone Grant, features strong patterns and bold colors, pulling inspiration from his Ghanaian roots.

The Creative Economy Business Incubator

Founded by Sara Hartmann, Assistant Professor of Design Innovation and Fashion Design, the Creative Economy Business Incubator is designed to support arts entrepreneurs with guidance from faculty, industry experts, and visiting entrepreneurs. Participants include MassArt undergraduates, graduate students, and alumni who spend two semesters developing, market testing, and refining a business idea, all while learning foundational principles of entrepreneurship, strategy, marketing, and finance through practice and hands-on experience. The program offers a rich array of resources: participants gain valuable professional networking experience, build connections with current students and alumni, receive one-on-one coaching from creative industry professionals, gain access to manufacturers and suppliers, and have the opportunity to sell their work through MassArt's booth at SoWa Open Market, one of the largest open-air artist and farmer markets in Boston.

In 2022, MassArt dramatically expanded the Incubator program by partnering with the Mayor's Office of Arts and Culture to create free professional development opportunities for Boston-based artists and creative entrepreneurs. Supported by a $70,000 Workforce Development Grant, MassArt opened up access to the Incubator program beyond the College's student body and alumni to include all artists who live or work in Boston, with priority consideration given to BIPOC artists. Reflecting on the program's expansion, President Mary K. Grant noted, "We are grateful to Mayor Wu and the Office of Arts and Culture for their belief in MassArt and the power of art and design. We look forward to the impact that this will have on Boston's creative economy."

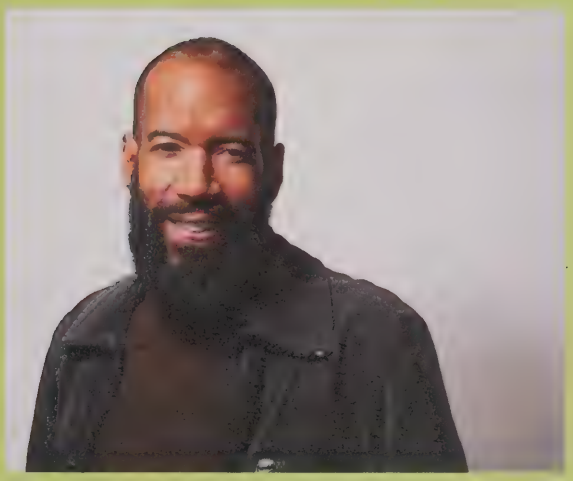
Creative Incubator Milestone Grant recipient Haley Wood ('21 BFA Fibers) makes custom rugs, wall hangings, and cushion covers inspired by medieval marginalia and folklore for her business, Haley Wood Textiles.

SARA HARTMANN '04

BFA Fashion, Assistant Professor–Design Innovation and Fashion Design

Sara Hartmann is an educator and arts entrepreneurship change agent. As an Assistant Professor at MassArt, she founded the Creative Economy Business Incubator, and also produces MassArt's Creative Economy Workshop Series in partnership with the City of Boston, which offers free business skills training and professional development for artists and designers. Hartmann serves on the Design Museum Everywhere Council and is a member of the Society for Arts Entrepreneurship Education. Prior to academia, Hartmann worked both as a costume designer for theater and opera, and as a digital marketer for apparel and consumer product start-ups. Her experience moving between the cultural and innovation economies has inspired her work addressing the resource gaps faced by would-be founders in creative industries.

MASSART.EDU



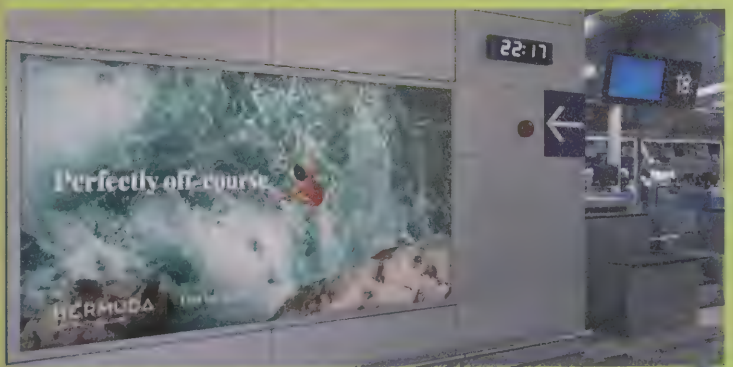
DAREN BASCOME, '93

BFA Graphic Design

Brand-maker and entrepreneur Daren Bascome is the founder and creative director of Proverb, a global award-winning place-branding agency that partners with innovative real estate developers, institutions, cities, and destinations to build groundbreaking brands and campaigns. The agency is a dynamic, inclusive, effective, and culturally relevant team made up of cross-disciplinary, culturally diverse talents. Through market research, branding, placemaking, and content production, Proverb works with destinations to build powerful brands and craft meaningful messages.

In 2021 as part of Boston's COVID-19's equitable recovery, Proverb produced the "All Inclusive Boston" marketing campaign and "This is My Boston Accent" video, which highlighted communities of color, the LGBTQ community, and often-overlooked neighborhoods throughout the city. In 2022, the agency produced a major new travel campaign for Bermuda (Bascome is a native Bermudian), "Lost Yet Found"—based on authentic experiences, culinary offerings, historical and cultural sites, and a sense of mystery.

A community-minded leader, Bascome serves as a Trustee at MassArt and has co-chaired the annual MassArt Auction since 2021. Additionally, he serves as an advisor at the Museum of Fine Arts Boston, and was named to the Boston Magazine list of "150 Most Influential Bostonians" in 2023, and one of "Boston's Power 50" by the Boston Business Journal in 2021.



HALEY JOHNSON '24
BFA Painting

A MassArt undergraduate pursuing a degree in painting with a minor in sustainability, Haley's oil paintings explore her passion for wildlife with an emphasis on birds. Growing up taking frequent trips to the remote Maine wilderness, Haley developed an incessant curiosity about nature and loves to share that curiosity with others. She began birdwatching in 2017 with her high school birding club, and went on to form a bird club at MassArt, leading her fellow students in photographing and documenting their experiences, educating others about the birds in the area, and making contributions to scientific research. Working from the photographs she takes while out in the field, Haley is able to recreate her favorite experiences in nature through images of plants, animals, and landscapes. Haley is a recipient of the 2022 George Nick Prize, and a student representative for the Sustainability in the Curriculum Committee.

ALEX NALLY '16
BFA Studio for Interrelated Media

Creative and community-oriented legal designer and practitioner Alex Nally is a proud 2016 graduate of the Studio for Interrelated Media (SIM) at MassArt. While a student, Nally served in numerous leadership roles on campus to urge social justice action on behalf of MassArt students, including as President of the Student Government Association and the Student Trustee. An active member of the Queer Artists Collective, Nally led the effort to add a chosen name field to MassArt's enrollment database. He also served as Chair of the Massachusetts Commission on LGBTQ+ Youth, where he implemented ma-lgbtq.org, a mobile map of LGBTQ+ youth resources in Massachusetts.

After graduating from MassArt, Nally went on to pursue a degree in law and public policy at Northeastern University. Currently he is Legislative Director and Deputy General Counsel to Massachusetts Senator Julian Cyr.

Community Build

Established in 2009, the MassArt Community Build program promotes projects for public and nonprofit entities that solve practical problems, encouraging human interaction in the built environment. Through education, advocacy, and research leading to design and construction, Community Build provides opportunities for students and communities to work as partners on design-build projects.

To begin a project, Master of Architecture students participate and lead meetings with members of the community, interact with city departments, and develop and present designs for the project. Ultimately, students bring architectural form from concept to reality while meeting the goals of the client group and exploring the expressive potential of building materials and structural systems.

The most recent collaboration—the Butterfly Pavilion—is a small pavilion and outdoor classroom sited in Cabot Park in Newton. During the schematic and design development phase in the summer of 2021, the team worked closely with the Mayor and the Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces commission. The plan considered the nearby Cabot School, local pre-school programs, the neighborhood, and an adjacent elderly housing community for possible multi-generational activities. The final plan was approved and work began in Summer 2022, and the ribbon will be cut on the Butterfly Pavilion in Spring 2023.

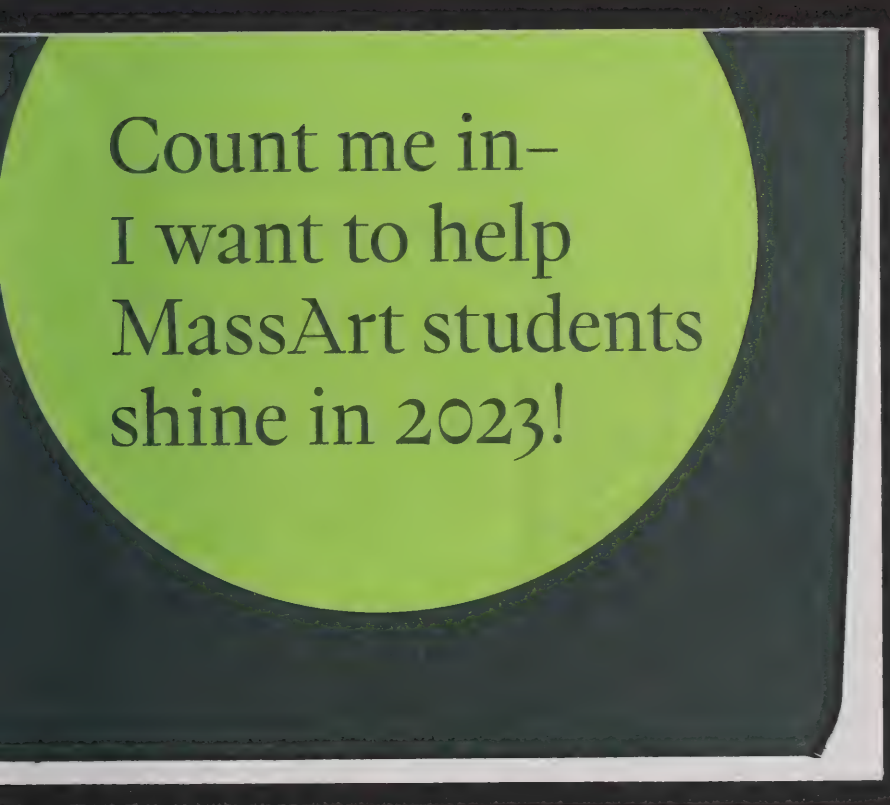
MASSART.EDU/COMMUNITYBUILD

The Joy of Making Your Mark

MassArt x SoWa

A dedicated gallery space in the heart of Boston's art district, MassArt x SoWa launched in 2021 to exhibit high quality work in a broad range of media from emerging and established artists in the MassArt community. The gallery features the thesis work of MassArt's MFA students, graduate design programs, as well as other curatorial projects, alumni exhibitions, student and faculty curated shows, and collaborative exhibitions with community partners. Through exhibitions at the SoWa gallery, students have the opportunity to share their work in a public setting, connect with a broad and diverse audience, and gain professional development through hands-on roles as preparers, designers, and marketers.

More than an exhibition venue, MassArt x SoWa also serves MassArt as an off-site location for presentations and events, and a convening space for students, faculty, alumni, and partners in the art and design community. Through these activities, the gallery bolsters the College's commitment to engaging with the broader community and providing access to the arts, all while providing critical career-preparation opportunities to students.


Count me in–
I want to help
MassArt students
shine in 2023!

MassArt Fou
621 Huntington Avenu
Boston MA 02115

SILVIA LÓPEZ CHAVEZ '99

BFA Illustration

Silvia López Chavez is a Dominican-American artist whose collaborative, community-centered murals aim to forge meaningful cross-cultural connections. Her vibrant, joyful works dramatically transform urban spaces by honoring the identity of a place and its people, all while remaining approachable and accessible to a wide audience. López Chavez views art-making as a critical tool for community building, and seeks to bring awareness to contemporary issues of social and environmental justice throughout her work. She is a frequent collaborator on public art projects with urban planners, architects, non-profits, developers, and activists.

López Chavez's local works can be seen across Boston, Cambridge, Chelsea, Lynn, Salem, Beverly, Danvers, Ipswich, and Marblehead. She is a Neighborhood Salon Luminary at the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, the recipient of a New England Foundation for the Arts (NEFA) Leadership in Public Art award (2021), and a Studios at MASS MoCA artist in residence. Commissions include the U.S. Chinese Embassy in Beijing, Google HQ in California, SeaWalls Boston, MIT, Harvard University, Twitter, and Northeastern University.

ANJALI SRINIVASAN

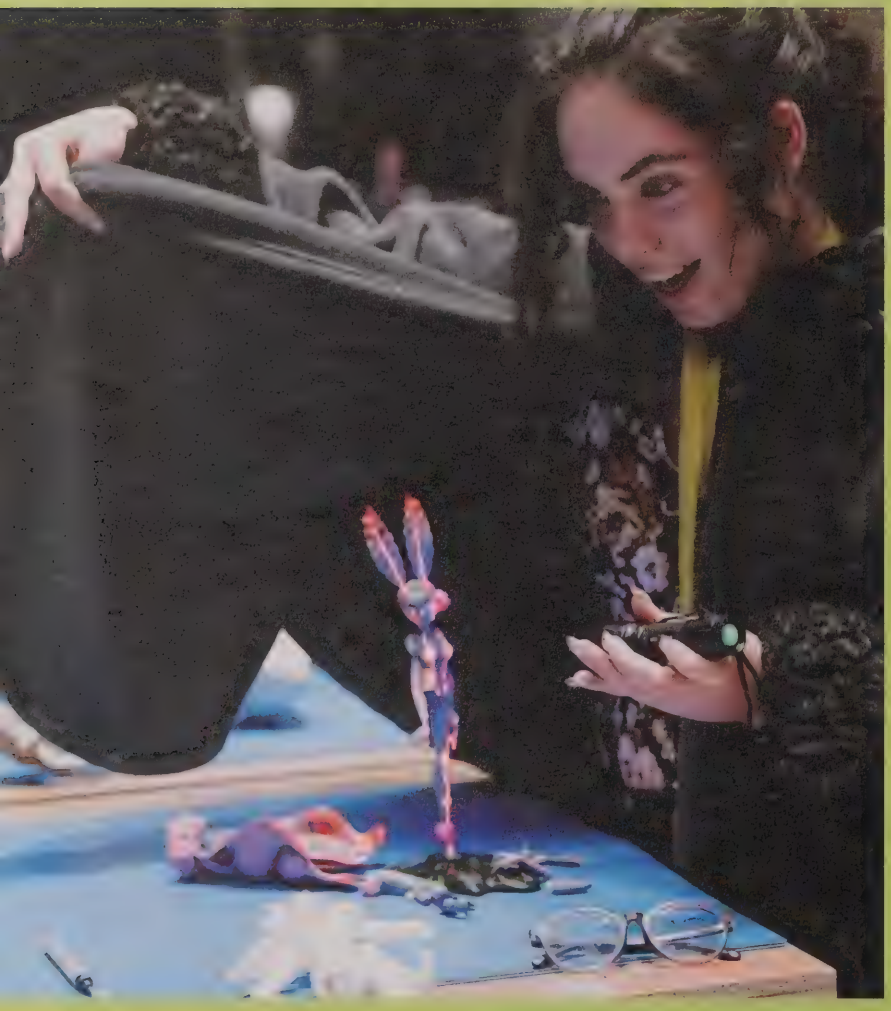
Associate Professor–Fine Arts 3D, Glass

Anjali Srinivasan is an artist, educator, and entrepreneur who continually pushes the boundaries of the material of glass. Working in a variety of different media and formats, Srinivasan strives to expand notions of what glass can be - and for whom. Using emergent technologies, hot glass, and spices, Srinivasan creates toys, tools, devices, and installations that change over time or through participation, calling the viewer into the framework of the created piece. Srinivasan notes, "I am invested in eroding the notion of a self-contained object."

Anjali works between India and the United States, as a MassArt Fine Arts 3D professor, and Director of ChoChoMa Studios in Bangalore, a glass studio that focuses on the development of ways to discover, access and restructure information held in a material or situation. She has an MFA from the Rhode Island School of Design, a BFA cum laude from Alfred University in New York, and studied Accessories Design at the National Institute of Fashion Technology in New Delhi.

"I am interested not in what is, but what can be."

Digital Fabrication Labs



The Digital Fabrication Labs—or FABLABS—are collaborative communal spaces dedicated to supporting the creative process, developing problem-solving skills, and empowering the community through emerging technologies. The FABLABS consist of the UPLAB with tools for 3D printing and a wire bender, a PCLAB with 3D modeling software, and a BASE LAB equipped with a laser cutter and waterjet cutter.

While many colleges and universities limit access to digital fabrication resources to specific majors, at MassArt all students are encouraged to learn and use these cutting-edge technologies. Across majors, students are exposed to these resources in classes, workshops, and trainings. Students also learn how to use machines from start to finish, rather than sending models to staff members who handle printing for students—a common practice at other learning institutions. Studio manager Adam Zapotok also noted that "many times these [digital fabrication] spaces end up in a back corner with not much support," but at MassArt "We were given a beautiful space and great support from the College."

Fashion Design

MassArt Fashion Design was established in 1907, and is one of the oldest fashion programs in the United States. The department aims to support personal development in design by emphasizing concept-driven fashion, innovation, and presentation. Through creative process, industry practice, technical competency and craft, students build the knowledge and critical thinking needed to become versatile fashion designers.

Fashion students are encouraged to develop innovative design messages as they master pattern drafting and detailing techniques, along with exploring current practices used by sustainable fashion designers/companies, organic and eco-friendly textiles, waste minimization and upcycling in design and manufacturing.

Fashion Design facilities offer studio/classrooms, labs, lecture and workrooms equipped with industry-standard cutting tables, industrial machines, dress forms, and software for apparel and textile design. Students connect with the materials resource center and research/reference library within the department and are afforded college-wide gallery, library and exhibition space.

CHRISTIAN DE RESTREPO '15

BFA Fashion Design, Studio Manager - Fashion Design

Christian De Restrepo, is a Boston-based American/Colombian maker who explores intimate human emotions by transforming unusual and mundane materials through an obsessive, almost ritualistic process. His most recent project, "A El Mismo" explores, builds, and brings to life the notion of a stolen ancestral future. Inspired and driven by his family's immigration to the United States from Colombia, he proposes an alternative timeline where the Spanish Colonization of Latino America hadn't occurred, offering instead a visual narrative to what Pre-Hispanic cultures from Colombia, like the Musica and Tairona, might have looked like if they had the chance to thrive into the 21st century.

For President Grant's inauguration, De Restrepo created custom designed regalia using his signature textile. He noted that the final piece "highlights the strength of a new leader, with the structured sharp shoulders, as well as a core lesson I learned at MassArt: learning to look at things not for what they are, but for what they could be."

President Mary K. Grant wearing custom Inauguration regalia created by Studio Manager Christian De Restrepo (pictured left) with Department Chair Jennifer Varekamp.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Elisa Hamilton '07 BFA, Chair
Karen M. Keane, Vice Chair
Daren Bascome '93 BFA
Sunand Bhattacharya
Denise Korn
Peter Nessen
Janice M. Saragoni
Kelly Sherman '02 BFA
Linda L. Snyder
Greg Stone
Nicholas Thompson '23, Student Trustee

MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION BOARD MEMBERS

Chris Gabrieli, Chairman
Sheila M. Harrity, Ed.D., Vice Chair
Veronica Conforme, Chair of Finance, Administration, Accountability & Performance Advisory Council
Patty Eppinger, Chair of Academic Affairs & Student Success Advisory Council
Bill Walczak, Community College Trustee Representative, Chair of Strategic Planning Advisory Council
Mary Burns, University of Massachusetts Trustee Representative
Ann Christensen
Alex Cortez
Travis Lawrence, Student Member, Massasoit Community College
Paul Mattera, J.D., State University Trustee Representative
Noe Ortega, Ph.D., Ex Officio, Commissioner of Higher Education, Secretary to the Board
Judy Pagliuca
Paul F. Toner, J.D.
Patrick A. Tutwiler, Ph.D., Secretary of Education

MassArt Commencement 2022, Leader Bank Pavilion, Boston.

Credits

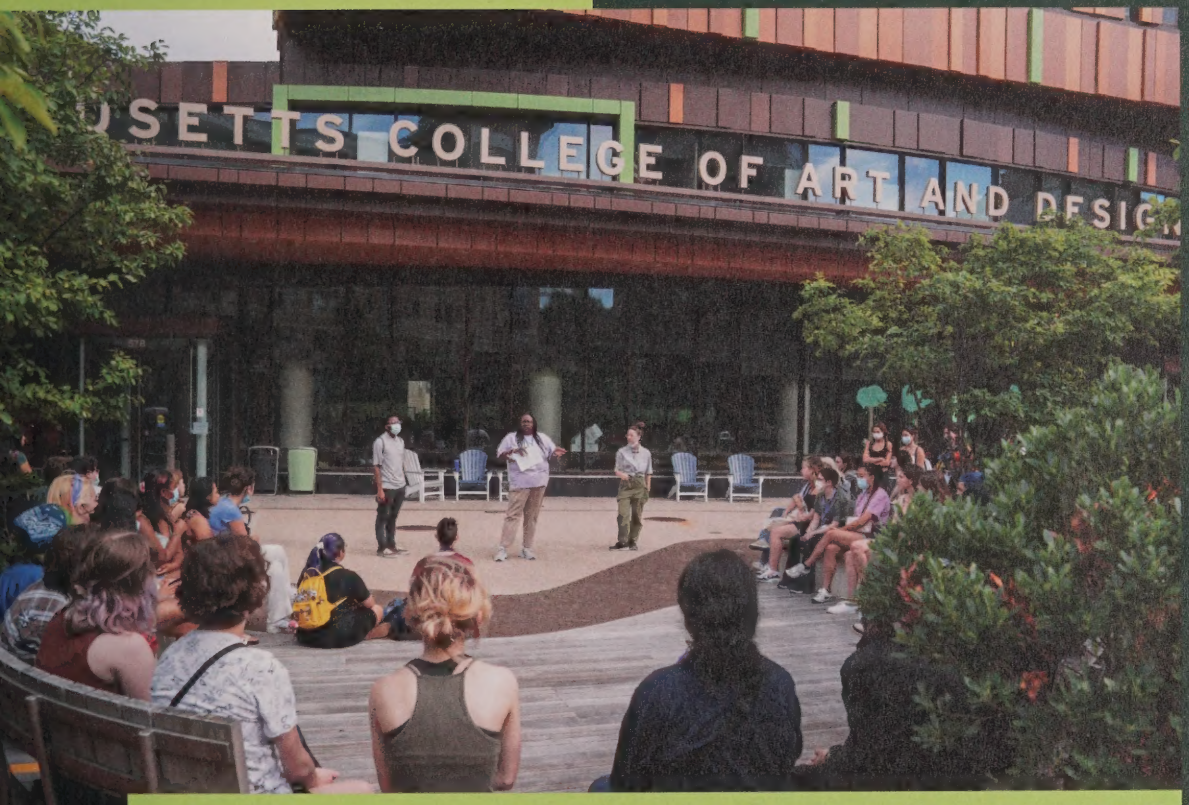
Contributing Editors
Ellen Carr, Lori Karlsson, Katy Morris, Jen Roy, Daisy St. Sauveur

Photography
Yukai Chen, Kelly Davidson, Gregory Linse, Tony Luong, Jorg Meyer, Melissa Ostrow, Mike Ritter

Design
Sametz Blackstone Associates

Printing
Puritan Press

YASSSSS
MASSART


USETTS COLLEGE OF ART AND DESIG

MASSART
MASSACHUSETTS COLLEGE
OF ART AND DESIGN

Massachusetts College of Art and Design
621 Huntington Avenue, Boston MA 02115

massart.edu

Follow us on:

@massartboston

Massachusetts College of Art and Design

Massachusetts College of Art and Design

@MassArt

150 MASSART YEARS